



## **CABLE & WIRELESS**

### **PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

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### **Cable & Wireless proud to sponsor the 2006 Caribbean MBA Conference *Supports visit for MBA candidates from Harvard, Wharton to Barbados Encouraging return of talent to the Caribbean***

This week, 50 MBA candidates from two of the world's leading business schools – the Harvard Business School and the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania – arrived in Barbados for the 2006 Caribbean MBA Conference, January 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup>, 2006, an annual event designed to encourage students of Caribbean heritage to consider career paths that enable them to contribute to the development of the region.

Senator Lynette Eastmond, Barbadian Minister of Commerce, Consumer Affairs and Business, gave the keynote welcome address while the conference featured panels of leading experts in Real Estate, Trade, Financial Services, Tourism and Entrepreneurship in the Caribbean. The conference is aimed at exploring what it means to live, work and invest in the Caribbean. One of the highlights of the week was the Business Leaders Dinner, where over 60 key executives from businesses such as Cable & Wireless and First Caribbean International Bank joined the MBA candidates for dinner, providing opportunities for in-depth discussion about doing business in the Caribbean.

Past Caribbean MBA conferences have been held in Jamaica (2003, Keynote Speaker Hon. Dr. Omar Davies, Minister of Finance), the Dominican Republic (2004, Keynote Speaker Hipolito Mejia, former President, Dominican Republic,) and Trinidad & Tobago (2005, Keynote Speaker Hon. Patrick Manning, Prime Minister, Trinidad and Tobago).

Cable & Wireless is a Platinum sponsor of the event, having supported the conference last year in Trinidad & Tobago. Said Rick Kimsey, CEO of Cable & Wireless' Caribbean region, "We are proud to support the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Caribbean MBA Conference. Many people talk about the challenges to the region presented by "brain drain" that occurs when many of the region's most talented, capable, and best-educated students opt for careers outside of the Caribbean. As a large corporation operating in the region, it's not only our responsibility to encourage development of the business community. It's also in our best interest!"

Jacqueline Jones, a former Fulbright Scholar and current VP of Strategic Planning & Market Research for Cable & Wireless in the Caribbean, attributes her current position in part to her

participation in the Dominican Republic and Trinidad past Caribbean MBA Conferences. Said Jones, “As a Caribbean national, I am enthusiastic about the economic potential of this region. The conferences played a critical role in highlighting the opportunities that exist in the Caribbean. I joined Cable & Wireless because of its “Pan-Caribbean” focus and its scope of technology services. I believe that my role with C&W will provide an opportunity for me to contribute to the development of the region.”

Conference Co-Chairs Janelle Prevost, an MBA candidate from Dominica at the Harvard Business School, and Arthurine Barned, a Jamaican MBA candidate at Wharton expressed their excitement at the level of sponsorship involvement, “We are excited to have Cable & Wireless support the Caribbean MBA Conference again this year. Their participation, along with that of our other sponsors, is integral to the ongoing success of the conference. We hope that with their support, we can replicate previous conferences’ success in placing Harvard and Wharton MBA students and alumni in summer and full-time opportunities in the Caribbean.”

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**About Cable & Wireless**

Cable & Wireless is one of the world’s leading international communications companies. It provides fixed and mobile voice, data, IP (Internet Protocol) and broadband services to business and residential customers, as well as services to other telecoms carriers, mobile operators and providers of content, applications and internet services.

Cable & Wireless’ principal operations are in the United Kingdom, the Caribbean, Panama, Macau and Monaco. For more information about Cable & Wireless, go to [www.cw.com](http://www.cw.com) <<http://www.cw.com>> or [www.candw.vg](http://www.candw.vg)